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THE PORTE.

The policy of having a friendly understanding with the Ottoman empire, and even extending our foreign relations so far as to form with it, a commercial treaty, and have a minister resident at the Porte, is a subject worthy of consideration, perhaps at this day, when our commerce is so circumscribed by the pacification of the late belligerents, as to crowd our harbors with vessels for which there is no employment, and to excite the most lively interest, for some new path being opened, whereby the active enterprize of mercantile adventurers may meet a recompence.

It is certainly advisable that we should avail ourselves of all those advantages, which the present state of the world will admit, if we desire to retain even a remnant of the great foreign commerce, and exchange, which has hitherto marked our progress almost from the days of our revolutionary victories—at least from the year 1789, until the peace of Ghent.

We were some time since particularly interested in the inquiry into this subject by an editorial article which appeared in the National Advocate; and which although a mere glance on the various inducements towards a more intimate connexion with the Porte; yet displayed a considerable acquaintance with the many interests which might grow out of it, awakening as it were, an investigation in the minds of those who had the means to satisfy themselves of the advantages which a free navigation of the waters of the Black Sea might open to our flag. The editor of the Advocate has considered it relatively to our commerce with Russia, and the benefits we should enjoy by preferring this calm navigation to the rough and almost unconquerable billows of the Baltic, during the tempestuous months which mark the winters in those high latitudes. This is certainly in itself a great consideration, in which, freights and the benefits resulting from short voyages are much interested.

There are other views also which he has taken, pointing out the advantages which the commerce of our country would enjoy from this understanding with the Porte—we shall lay this inquiry of the Advocate before the public; but we shall first introduce what will be found a corroboration of the sentiments and views embraced by that paper. These are drawn from a source in which the public may place confidence, as the writer has been for years a public agent among the Barbary powers; and in the varied scenes of

a captive slave to day, and a consul to-morrow, has been enabled to make those inquiries and cull those truths by which the mind may be led to a conclusion regarding powers, whose barbarism and oppugnance to civilized warfare, together with their hostility to the christian world, has thrown them out of the chart of general geography, and left them unknown to the mass of readers.

There is one view of the subject particularly interesting; which is, that a good understanding with the Porte, might prevent many of our collisions with the Barbary powers, and in case of a rupture, might enable us to settle the difference with one half the expense that an armament by sea would cost, and with much less loss of time. Unless, indeed, we enter the lists to annihilate these barbarians, we cannot expect to "gather laurels" in a crusade, which always terminates in a treaty *pro tem*, and which if occasion suits, may be broken before the wax is cold. A minister, therefore, at Constantinople, might be the means of saving, instead of creating expense, and he would also have the opportunity of watching other ministers, and particularly that of Great Britain, by whom, perhaps, if we are not in error, the movements of the Barbary powers are more or less swayed.

In order to shew in what manner vessels are protected in the navigation of those waters, over which the Grand Seigneur claims jurisdiction; we shall give a literal translation of a passport to an Austrian vessel, which our readers, however they may laugh at the bombast, will perceive the authority which the Porte exercises over the Barbary power, their cruisers, &c. and we shall then lay before them a letter addressed to us by Mr. Cathcart, our late minister at Cadiz, on the subject now treated on.

THE PASSPORT.

SULTAN'S SEAL.

To the most exalted commanders or commandants of my victorious armada, to the supreme counsellors of state, ordainers of the world, who compose the constitutions of nations, and directors of the public affairs, and who are endowed with the most sublime prudence and righteous councils; to my vizir Hussain Pacha, general of my marine, and the vizir Hassan Pacha, Dey of Algiers, the commanders in the White Sea, and the renowned vizirs who reside in my islands, from and

for whom to the most high be rendered eternal glory; to the prince of princes, greatest of the great, potent, honored and esteemed the Bey of Tunis, and the Bey of Tripoli in the west, whose power be eternal; to the most discreet judges, and those who preside in our islands, (who are the fountain of wisdom and science) and whose dignity the Lord exalt; to all governors and commanders, and to the captains of all vessels who navigate under the flag, or are in the service of my sublime Porte, and to the corsairs of the before mentioned cantons, whose power the Lord augment;

On meeting this most high imperial sign or impression, to you; Be it made known, that the accredited minister of Germany, near my imperial government, the baron *Herbert Mitkal*, exalted among the grandees of nations of the Messiah, may whose end be happy, presented to my most faithful Porte, a sealed memorial in which was transcribed the 3d article of the established capitulation made between my sublime Porte and the court of Germany in favor of merchant vessels, of Austria, which has existed since the 2d day of the moon Gimadulahir, of the year of the Hegira, 1212, and of the Messiah, 1797; according to the stipulations agreed upon between both parties, accepted and accepted by the disposition of my said sublime Porte, and according to the *Senad* of the orders established in consequence thereof, whose substance ought absolutely to be carried into execution without doing or permitting to be done by any person whatever, any thing in contravention thereof, said orders being renewed and confirmed, recalling the spirit of the *Senad*, and the disposition of the sublime Porte, copying the said, word for word, to give it more weight and validity, and to conform it to the tenor of the established agreement which declared that if a *subject* of the emperor of Rome, commanding a merchant vessel (here insert the name of the vessel and captain, &c.) trading in the ports of my dominions to purchase and to sell; in order that he may navigate every sea in pursuit of the objects of his commerce without danger of being molested by the corsairs of the said cantons, or of the Dulagnottos, or by my own vessels, whenever they may meet, according to the articles of the sacred capitulation contained in the aforementioned convention of the *Senad* stipulated on the 9th day of the holy moon of Ramadan, in favor of the subjects of Austria. *Therefore the above mentioned captain, his vessel, cargo, équipage, and passengers are not to be molested, nor are they to be subject to the smallest insult; but on the contrary they are to be protected and assisted by all possible means, in order to facilitate the prosecution of their voyage, and should they, by rea-*

son of contrary winds and adverse weather, or for commercial objects, or for any other motive whatever, enter into any of the ports of my dominions, on the coast of Barbary, far from being molested by the governors and commandants of the said cantons, or of my sublime Porte, they are to receive every possible succor and assistance in conformity to the amity and good harmony which exists and the tenor of the articles contained in the sacred capitulation. For which reason is promulgated this my IMPERIAL FIRMAN to YE my EXALTED VIZIRS, in order that the articles of the convention deposited in the archives of my most sublime *divan* may be preserved inviolate with religious observance both now and hereafter; and in every respect conformable to the stipulations of the before mentioned *Senad*, which contains those privileges granted to the Austrians. I therefore issue this my supreme command to ye my renowned vizirs, beys, and all other commandants in order that their vessels may be permitted to navigate without the least impediment, in order that the amity and good harmony which at present subsists between the sublime Porte, whose glory be eternal, and their friend and neighbor the court of Germany, may not be obstructed but maintained in consonance, and on the basis on which is founded the amity and good understanding between the two powers, which ought by every means to be increased according to the tenor of said sacred convention, in which is required my imperial protection. For said reason you will take special care, that absolutely, no injury, whatever, shall be offered unto the aforementioned merchant vessels. And know ye, that this is my imperial will. *For if any damage should be done unto them, (which God forbid) it will be considered as done unto a merchant vessel belonging to my sublime Porte, and no difference whatever will be made between them, which you will take particular notice of, in order that not the least injury may be offered to the aforementioned Austrian captain, his vessel or cargo; neither by you, nor by the vessels of the aforesaid canton, nor by any other of the subjects of my dominions, nor act in controvention of the sacred articles of the aforementioned capitulation at your peril; but if by contrary winds they enter into the aforementioned ports of my dominions, you will take especial care that they are not molested, but on the contrary, you are to grant them protection and every possible assistance in conformity to the friendship and good harmony which exists. And ye who are my aforementioned captains of the aforementioned cantons dependent on my MOST SUBLIME PORTE, when any of you meet the said captain at sea, you will abstain from offering, neither will you suffer to be offered unto him, his vessel or cargo, the least damage or*

injury, but on the contrary will shew him friendship and facilitate his voyage, according to the good harmony which exists between us and Germany, and to the sense of the *Senad*, which establishes responsibility for damages.

To secure those objects I have issued this my imperial command and Firman, which being presented to you, you are uniformly to comply with the commands therein contained, which exacts respect and punctual obedience, abstaining to act in controvention thereof at *your peril*. Thus are you commanded, and place implicit faith in the sublime impression.*

Wrote in the middle of the moon of Gimadulahir, in the year of the Hegira, 1212, and of the Messiah, 1798, in the month of January.

* Impression of the seal which is done with ink and not on wax.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER.

Washington City, Nov. 26th, 1817.

Sir,

Before I left Madeira, I had intended to publish some particulars relative to the Barbary states, which were deemed interesting, and a prospectus under the title of Negotiations in Barbary, was published in the public prints; but my avocations since have prevented me from preparing it for the press. As I intend to publish this work hereafter, I will occasionally transmit extracts therefrom. I begin with a translation of a Turkish Firman or passport, as issued in 1798, to the vessels of the emperor of Germany and Russia who never maintain consuls in any of the *Barbary states*; the safety of their vessels being guaranteed by the grand seignior; and in very few instances have the chiefs of the *Barbary states* dared to disobey the imperial mandate, and never, without assigning some ostensible reason; for although they wish the christian consuls at their courts, to believe that they are entirely independent and owe no allegiance to the Ottoman Porte, those who are conversant with their policy know that they are obliged to obey its mandates implicitly, and that the Ottoman emperor has it in his power to change or even destroy their government at pleasure; and none is so much exposed to the effects of his resentment as the Dey of Algiers, who by long established custom must be a native Turk, and is placed, in general places himself, at the head of a military government, where every soldier, who has courage to assume the supreme command, by the assassination of his predecessor, is equally eligible to the *DEYLIK*: but until he is confirmed by the grand seignior and receives the *caston* or robe of honor from him, he is only considered as *Dey elect*, and he dare not attempt to coin money before he is thus confirmed; by this he acknowledges his depen-

dence on the Ottoman empire and the first act of his administration is generally to appoint an ambassador to the sublime Porte, who carries valuable presents in order to conciliate the favor of the grand seignior and his ministers; for was the *caston* to be refused him, he would be subject to the attack of every soldier in the regency who had ambition enough to aspire to the *DEYLIK*.—Indeed, even after his acknowledgment by the grand seignior, he is under the necessity of sending ambassadors frequently to the sublime Porte with presents in order to obtain permission to enlist recruits for his army, for was that permission denied only for ten years, his army, which never since the different plagues which raged from 1787 to 1796, and several times since, has exceeded 8000 Turks at any one period, with whom, and probably as many more *Ruloglos* or descendants from Turks, he has the arduous task, of keeping 3,000,000 of Moors and Arabs in subjection, from whom he collects his revenue at the point of the sword, would fail to be a sufficient protection and thus the regency would dwindle away to a mere skeleton, and he become an easy conquest either to the Renegades or the Arabs. It is true that he has some Moorish troops, but they have no pay, and he only uses them occasionally against the refractory Arabs, placing in them no confidence, as he is well aware that they would be the first to revolt had they the least probability of success; his maxim is to *divide and conquer*, and thus by inducing the Arabs to wage war against each other and supporting the weakest side; the regency has been able to this day, to keep a population, so numerous in comparison to its force in subjection.

Since the Turkish usurpation by Hayradin Barbarossa which induced the Ottoman empire to take them under its protection, Tunis and Tripoli being hereditary governments, although subject to the control of the Ottoman empire, have not been so immediately dependent, as the same causes do not exist. The Bashaws are acknowledged by the grand seignior in like manner as the Dey of Algiers, but they are only exposed to danger from the members of their own family, as none other are eligible to the supreme command; but the grand seignior has it in his power to nominate and confirm any other member of the family, and place him in opposition to the heirs apparent, and thus foment a civil war, which in a country where the different branches of the same family are numerous, and polygamy is tolerated, which has for ever weakened the ties of natural affection, is an efficient cause to keep the reigning *Pachas* in subjection.—In both those regencies there are *Turkish soldiers*, but not in such great numbers as in Algiers, neither do the bashaws so

much depend upon them, but was the grand seignior to absolve them from their allegiance to the reigning chief, and send a *castan* to another, even should it be his own brother, from the state of society in those countries, it would expose him to great danger; those considerations impose the necessity of their keeping upon good terms with the sublime Porte, and occasionally sending rich presents to the sultan and his ministers.

From those premises may be conjectured the great advantages which the United States would derive from having an intelligent agent at the Porte, perfectly acquainted with the policy of the Barbary states, and their relative situations with the Ottoman empire, of which in reality they compose a part, especially at any period when it would be inexpedient to keep an imposing force in the Mediterranean; but there are other objects of still greater importance which probably may engage the attention of congress at the ensuing session, which warrant the expediency of appointing a minister resident at the Porte; amongst which the greatest is the forming of a commercial treaty which would insure to the United States a secure trade to the ports of the Ottoman empire, and the free navigation of the Black Sea, at present the few vessels which trade almost exclusively to Smyrna are permitted by courtesy, and in a number of instances have we been indebted to Sweden for the protection of their flag, on our vessels entering that port, and we are entirely excluded from a participation of the lucrative trade of the Black Sea; the importance of which is very ably delineated in the following extract from the New-York National Advocate, which has anticipated my observations on the subject and leaves me only room to add that in addition to the 1360 vessels which cleared out at Odessa in 1816, may be mentioned a considerable number of Greeks navigating under the Greek Ottoman flag, some of whom have carried grain to Cadiz, Lisbon, and even to the island of Tenneriffe and Madeira. From the temperature of its climate and other circumstances, a much more lucrative trade may be carried on from that port for the whole year round, than from any port in the Baltic, without being subject to detention by ice for a number of months or the inclemency of the weather, which frequently renders our returns from thence precarious and the best concerted voyages ruinous.

That the government of Russia has ever been anxious to obtain a port in the Mediterranean is a fact not to be controverted at this day, I have at this moment in my possession an *expose* of an attempt made by the order of the empress Catherine the 2d, to obtain the port of *Derna*, from the

bashaw of Tripoli; in which she would have succeeded had it not been for the revolutions which commenced in that regency about that period, and the interference of other powers; but whether the present emperor is desirous of possessing Constantinople, or would be permitted to keep possession of it by the other powers of Europe, is yet to be ascertained; in any event the trade of the Levant and the Black Sea, would not become less valuable to the United States either as capitalists or carriers.

It is only necessary therefore to consider whether the objects contemplated, are worthy the means intended to be employed to secure them, and whether the expense which would attend the negotiation of a commercial treaty, and the residence of a minister at the Porte would, be defrayed by the advantages accruing therefrom.

From the tenor of many conversations which I have had with several of the grand seignor's ambassadors to the Barbary state, and with respectable merchants who have resided at Constantinople and other ports in the Turkish dominions.—I am led to believe that no obstacle would be placed in the way of a negotiation between the two powers excepting such as might be suggested by the jealousy of some of the commercial nations, which an agent possessing a knowledge of the manners, customs, language, and mode of negotiating with the Turkish ministers might very easily surmount.

I am, respectfully, &c.

JAMES LEANDER CATHCART.

P.S. In an extract inserted in the National Intelligencer, the 25th inst. headed "from France," and dated Boston, Nov. 19th, is the following paragraph, viz.

"The Spanish and Neapolitan governments, as well as Sweden and Sardinia have solicited from the Porte, the liberty of navigating the Black Sea.—It is said that the Turkish government demands a very high compensation for the privilege."—This is mere hearsay, the Swedish government already possesses that privilege, and several Swedish vessels cleared out at Odessa last year; that the other powers should endeavor to participate in so lucrative a commerce is not at all to be wondered at, and it is truly lamentable that the United States should be one of the last to endeavor to obtain a participation of a trade which must be of infinite more importance to them than the same trade can be to either Spain, Naples, or Sardinia, besides exposing our government to an additional expense, and opposition from those nations recently admitted to that privilege; for if those nations make considerable presents, it is natural to suppose that in order to prevent the United States from sharing the benefit of that

trade with them, that they will represent the vast resources what we possess, and the great advantages we would derive therefrom, in such a manner as to induce the Porte to demand a sum from us in proportion to the advantages either real or imaginary, which the interest of our rivals would represent, we should enjoy. Had the government of the United States been in a situation to have concluded a treaty of peace with Algiers and consequently with the rest of the Barbary states, any time between the conclusion of the revolutionary war in 1783, and the peace between Spain and Algiers in 1785, before the British sent out new passports in consequence of which our vessels were captured, and our citizens enslaved, while Algiers was still smarting under the great expense they had been at in carrying on the war against Spain, and before their cupidity was excited or increased by the immense concessions of that nation; the United States would have obtained a peace for a mere trifle in comparison to what they really paid. As for the stipulations contained in the 8th article of the treaty of amity and commerce, concluded between the United States of America and Louis the 16th, at Paris, on the 6th of February, 1778, and that contained in the 23d article of the treaty concluded between said states and their high mightinesses the states general of the United Netherlands at the Hague, on the 8th of October, 1782, being of any service to us equal to the obligation which would have been incurred, is difficult at present to ascertain, but it is a well known fact, that when our commerce was in a flourishing state in 1794 and 1795, when our negotiations were carrying on with the regency of Algiers, that nothing was farther from their intention than to facilitate the negotiation, notwithstanding the flattering promises, of those in power, to our agent in France especially; but by experience we found that our rapid commercial importance had excited their jealousy, and that we must depend upon our own resources alone for a happy issue to the negotiation, and so we must, should we open a negotiation with the Ottoman empire. Every other power who procures the free navigation of the Levant and Black Sea before us, will become our rival, and increase the expense of a negotiation; which is the only difficulty existing in the way of negotiating a commercial treaty with that empire, upon the terms of the most favored nation.

From the New-York National Advocate.

BLACK SEA.

It is evident that the direct trade with Russian ports in the Black Sea has long been an object necessary and desirable to American commerce. Since the conquest of the Crimea from the Turks,

the enterprize of the Russian government, in improving the ports, forming settlements and building towns on that coast has given the highest importance to its commercial character, not only by developing its resources but by diverting the inland trade of Asiatic Russia and the internal commerce from China into a new channel, which opens the greatest facility to the enterprize of our navigation. Hitherto, through the waters of the Baltic that great empire has received its necessary supplies, and through the same conveyance has exported its products. Its possessions, however, on the borders of the Black Sea, and the combined advantages of soil and climate, are daily attracting the commerce of the north into a quarter, affording, from its position, more certain facilities to trade than any other part of the Russian dominions, from which the empire can receive its supplies through the navigable waters which disembogue themselves in the Black Sea.

The Russian government foreseeing all the advantages arising from their possessions in that quarter, have spared no expense to render their harbors safe and commodious. The port of Tanagerock, at the head of the sea of Azoph, in addition to its local supplies, always affording a ready sale, has a depot of China goods, and furnishes the interior of Asiatic Russia with foreign articles through the rivers Don and Volga. Odessa, situated between the Dneister, is a flourishing and important port, from which, as far back as 1808, no less than one thousand vessels of different nations, cleared out with cargoes in one year. The ports of Nicoleff and Chersen are rapidly improving, and in these various harbors a constant supply of wheat, barley, rye, oats, tallow, beeswax, iron from Siberia, hemp, flax, hides, cordage, canvass, spars, naval stores, hare skins, and East India goods can be shipped on an average, considerably less than from Riga or St. Petersburg. They require, in return, such articles as we now supply them with, viz. cotton, twist, coffee, sugar, dye woods, indigo, cochineal, pepper, &c. and which produces an additional profit to that obtained in the ports of the Baltic. Goods also may be placed in entrepot, and continue there eighteen months free of duty—an important point. It is obvious, then, and in fact, is admitted, that the commerce of the Black Sea is very desirable to us: but if not as presenting a constant and profitable market for our produce, at all events as holding forth the strongest prospects of obtaining a great share of the carrying trade.

The free commerce of the Black Sea once obtained for the American flag, our vessels will always claim the preference, and the best freights. It may be asked why, with our enterprize, have not our merchants opened this trade? The reasons are obvious. Many of them, satisfied of its importance, have pressed our government to have an understanding with the Turks. The government of the United States, always cautious, acknowledged the advantages of that trade, but feared that an understanding with the Turkish government would be expensive and entangling, they have postponed any attempt to open this trade, and our merchants, not knowing the character of the Turks, have declined an experiment in that quarter.—The fact is, there is nothing to apprehend. The Ottoman Porte has no objection to our having that trade, if we apply for it. We have long traded with Smyrna and other

ports in the Levant, and never have had any difficulties; and situated as the Porte actually is, in relation to the neighboring European powers, there is a strong disposition to cultivate a friendly and familiar intercourse with the United States, who, from the independent nature of her position, and being perfectly free from the intrigues and selfish views of European cabinets, is a power whose friendship is very desirable and valuable to the Ottoman Port.

The failure of the crops in several parts of Europe, have, for a few seasons back, rendered Odessa the granary of that quarter of the world: and in the last year, 1360 ships cleared out from that port, 846 of which were large vessels—407 of the number were Russians, 258 English, 101 Austrians, 25 French, 23 Turkish, and 15 Swedes. Considering our enterprize, and the unrivalled spirit of our merchants, and character of our seamen, it is somewhat melancholy not to find an American flag in the list. The principal advantage which we may anticipate in obtaining that trade would be the employment of some thousand tons of our shipping in that quarter, in conveying grain to Italy, France, and Spain: and if Russia should succeed in driving the Grand Seigneur out of Europe, we shall then enjoy freely the benefits of the trade by having already made ourselves familiar with the ports and navigable waters in that section of the world.—From observation and experience in affairs relating to that commerce, and from various conversations had with important agents of the Turkish government, we have no doubt of the existence of a friendly disposition, which would give to us, *without expense or an entangling treaty*, a free egress into the Black Sea; and possessing, as we do, friendly and reciprocal treaties with European powers, we anticipate no objections on their part, and none in fact, can arise which we cannot amicably remove. These advantages will doubtless be seen and improved by our government, who are not behindhand in laudible spirit and enterprize.

VIEWS OF INTERNAL ECONOMY.

No. II.

It is to be hoped that the prejudice which has existed in the minds of many against our becoming a manufacturing as well as an agricultural nation will not only disappear, but that an opposite sentiment will gradually prevail among all classes, and a national pride be excited favorable to the manufacturing interest and a spirit of emulation.

There is nothing more difficult than to conquer habits, however pernicious, to which we have been from infancy accustomed. It is owing to this that we have found so much opposition displayed towards the introduction of domestic goods; we have been so long habituated to English fashions and fabrics that it would appear as if we were actually dependant upon her for the covering of our bodies, whereas we possess within ourselves every requisite for the manufacture of every article which we continue to import, besides enjoying natural advantages of heads of water far superior to any that Great Britain can boast

In addition to the prejudices of habit against which the manufacturer has to contend, there is another and a greater enemy, which opposes him on every tack, and is more dangerous, because it is not seen. It works secretly, but steadily, and this it is which baffles him when he counts upon success, and undermines him, when he considers himself in security. The interest which Great Britain feels to prevent our becoming a manufacturing people is as natural as it is powerful. The revenue which she has hitherto drawn from these United States, by supplying our population with articles of first necessity and luxury, through the industry of her artizans, is trifling and contemptible in comparison to that which now opens to her view, and the loss of which would at this day be a severer stab to her prosperity, than the loss of the whole territory we now enjoy, was at the day she considered it a colonial possession. From a population of two million of souls, we have increased to five times the number, and in the course of *twenty* years, by natural progression we may calculate that our numbers will amount to as *many* millions; nearly equal to the population of France as she now exists.

But let us even confine our views to what we now are, a population of ten millions of souls, and suppose that instead of manufacturing for ourselves we imported the articles of first necessity; without taking into view finer stuffs or luxuries, and that for common wearing and household apparel every individual consumed in cotton goods, ten dollars per annum which is not above the maximum.

The sum we should annually pay Great Britain, would be one hundred millions of dollars; let us even suppose that in such case, she took from us all the staple commodity, say 400,000 bales of cotton or 120 millions of pounds which produced to our agriculturalists twenty-five cents per pound, or thirty millions of dollars, how great would be her gain upon the exchange, and what an amazing surplus of other articles must we devote to the payment of balances which in one article created a debt of seventy millions. Indeed were G. Britain politically to study her own aggrandizement, and to have the choice of again possessing the territory of the United States, or that of supplying it with manufactures, she ought not to hesitate an instant in giving her preference to the latter.

Let us only place the picture in the walk of common life, and give to an individual a contract for the supplying a state, a section or a district, with the articles of first necessity, and allowing that he only made a penny profit, per yard between the cost of the raw material, expense of labor, &c, what a fortune would that penny make, when the number of yards were taken into view,

the consumption continual and the progress of population doubling itself in twenty years

"If the people on this side the Atlantic, are so blind as not to see the immense advantages which would accrue to the British trade, by our want of a prudent policy and economy; the eyes of the rulers of Great Britain are fully open as regards it, and to preserve this branch of their commerce, to still hold the monopoly of being the manufacturers for America, there is no sacrifice so large that they would ot in a manner undertake. G. Britain is silent and weary; apparently unconcerned in this question of our internal economics; but she has every art in operation, and is exerting every energy to discourage and throw into disorder all attempts at our providing for ourselves; that she should be indifferent on a subject of such vital consequence, we presume there is no one hardy enough to advance, who has regarded the measures pursued by the British government, with respect to her manufacturing interests, for the last quarter of a century. It may be asked what are the operations of that government which are in activity against our manufacturers, and which cannot be discerned and made clear to the understanding. *It is that secret agency which places a capital of equal or greater extent, than the capitals of our manufacturers, in competition against them, and which, reduce their prices however low they may, will still continue its reduction lower, until the price of the imported article in our market becomes even fifty per cent. less than it was made for at the manufactory.* Of what moment would be the sacrifice of twenty or forty millions of pounds sterling, during two, three or four years, in order to put down American fabrication, compared to the immense object which is at stake, and of which one year of exclusive exportation from Britain to this continent, would more than repay. It is this agency which is active and vigilant in every section of the Union, and which though not to be traced by any one to be the hand of the British government, is nevertheless proved to be so, if we take a comparative view of the prices at this day and any former period, of the articles of her manufacture. The shirting muslins of our country, threatened to become a formidable article against her desired monopoly, and what do we behold but the linens of Ireland put in opposition against them, and sold at prices in our retail stores, at which no manufacturer would ever attempt to make them.

It may be argued that this is the loss of the American importer, or that of the British shipper, but this is a delusion; if such were the fact, the evil would remedy itself; no man continues steadily on in the march to destruction, if he find the market overstocked, and has suffered a loss, he does not continue to glut it, by purchasing the

same articles, or sending them again to meet the same fate, and thus with his eyes open devote himself to ruin. Every thing conspires to make it evident that the British government has assigned a certain sum to be expended in competition against us, and whatever that sum may be, it is large enough to ruin every man in our country who owns a *shuttle* or a *jenny*, unless the wisdom of our government may see proper to protect him.

If it can be made to appear, and we maintain that it can, by plain arithmetic, that the very saving in our coarse cotton goods, by manufacturing them ourselves, instead of importing them, will be to this nation in twenty years, a sum so stupendous as to equal the gigantic debt of the British government; it certainly is worth the experiment to see, if by proper and judicious restrictions, we can yet reanimate the almost extinguished spark of so valuable a branch of internal industry. Almost every power in Europe has interdicted the importation of British cloths of every denomination. It was to them an act of vital necessity in order to give the means of sustenance to their subjects. It now behoves us to regard it in the same light; we cannot all be agriculturists, and the industry of our women and children incapable to follow the plough, will be lost to the country if we neglect it, and penury and wretchedness will supply the place of plenty. We repeat we have lost almost all our foreign commerce, and we must supply its place by internal occupation, and turning our attention to mechanism, and the arts, if we wish to see prosperity and happiness gladden the hearts of the people; if we neglect this the picture will assume very different features, and gloom and sadness will cast their shadows over the land.

As to the arguments which British feelings have dictated, that manufactures encourage vice and tend to enervate and enfeeble the body; it is almost too ridiculous for a reply, what encourages vice more than idleness; and what more than poverty and want enfeebles the body? Because the cupidity and injustice of the British government, have brought misery upon all its subjects, and squalid wretches are to be seen issuing from her manufactories; is it an argument that such should be the consequence under a free and enlightened republic? Let us look at the manufacturing towns in France, and ask if vice or misery are to be read in the features of their inhabitants? Let us take all the continent of Europe where manufactories are established, and ask if such are the characteristics of their inmates? the reverse will be acknowledged by all who have visited them.

Let us not then be imposed upon by such untenable

ble assertions; let us look at the subject as it merits, and if it be considered wholesome and beneficial, let the energies of the nation be exerted to encourage and protect it, but if the sentiment be against it and such incomprehensible policy should exist in a people calling themselves *wise*, that they should determine it were better to employ foreign hands to do our business, than do it ourselves; we should in such case be pleased to see the *curse* of congress put upon all American manufacturers and manufactories, as that even at this late hour would be preferable to a half handed encouragement, and perhaps save to some of the starving and discouraged artizans of our country a nine pence out of their *noble*, and enable them to steer clear of a poor house and a penitentiary.

NORTH CAROLINA.

MESSAGE OF THE GOVERNOR TO THE LEGISLATURE.
To the honorable the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina.

GENTLEMEN,

To meet you at a period like the present, when our country, prosperous in her foreign and domestic relations, her citizens sacrificing their party differences at the shrine of patriotism, and the earth, as if to fill up the measure of our happiness, has compensated with the richest abundance the labors bestowed upon it—is a circumstance peculiarly well calculated to afford cause of congratulation, and to call forth the warmest expressions of gratitude to the great Author of all these blessings.

The rapid progress we have made as a nation, in improvements tending to ameliorate the condition of man, seems to point to the high destiny reserved for the United States, and it behoves us as a constituent member of the union, not to be backward in exertions calculated to give us a respectable stand with our sister states in this advancement.

The rank which each state has in the union, is in a great measure estimated by her commercial importance. Situated as North Carolina is, voiding her exports through the two adjoining states she has not that consequence in the commercial world, to which her population and productiveness so eminently entitle her. To raise her to her proper station, claims the united efforts of every North Carolinian.

A report upon the subject of opening an outlet to the ocean, will probably be laid before you at this session. If it be practicable, the advantages arising from it to the state would seem not worthy of a competition with any reasonable expense. A spirit of internal improvement has, of late gone abroad, which if properly cherished, may be productive of the most beneficial effect; and I am not aware that the surplus funds of the treasury can be better applied, than in the aiding individual enterprise, in undertakings to advance the happiness and convenience of our citizens, and give the state a rank among her sister states commensurate with her population and extent of territory.

To enlighten the public mind in a free government, has ever been held the surest mode of perpetuating the blessings of that government. In

proportion as each individual in a community is informed, just in that proportion is he calculated to appreciate the benefits derived from that community. To devise a plan by which instruction may be extensively diffused, occupied some portion of the attention of the last legislature, and as the subject may again be submitted for your consideration, it may not be unseasonable for me thus to invite your attention to it in a particular manner.

Upon the two former occasions, when I had the honor of addressing you, I took the liberty of soliciting your attention to the judiciary, and you may judge of the importance attached to the subject in my mind, from my again bringing it before you. It will be readily admitted, that next to the legislative, this is the next most important branch of the government, and upon its proper organization a great deal depends. The accumulating duties of the present circuit judges would seem to demand, that their attention should exclusively be devoted to the duties of their circuit; and whether the supreme court, whose decisions are to determine what is the law of the land, and are to be handed down as precedents for the guidance of future generations, should not be composed of men who could devote their time and attention exclusively to the business of that court, seems to me well worthy of consideration. A curtailment of the circuits also, is with deference recommended.

A complete revision of the criminal code of our state has frequently occupied the attention of the legislature, and may possibly be brought before you this session. Should it not, there is one part of it which appears to me to require amendment; I allude to the punishment of horse stealing. I am fully sensible of the delicacy with which subjects of this sort should be touched; but feel myself treading upon safe ground, when I take the position, that no punishment should be inflicted in direct opposition to public sentiment. That which most men will unite promptly in pronouncing wrong, must certainly be wrong. And though the law as it now stands has been in force for some years, this circumstance is not to my mind conclusive evidence, that public sentiment is in its favor. It is to be remembered that the public attention has for some years back, been drawn to a complete change of our criminal code, and this law may have been permitted to exist in expectation of this change. For my part I have been led to the conclusion, that public opinion is in opposition to the present mode of punishment, from the circumstance, that not a conviction has taken place in the state, since I have been in office, but a petition has been presented for a pardon, signed, in every instance coming at this time within my recollection, by all the jury, and a long list of others of the most respectable kind, soliciting a pardon solely upon the ground of the severity of the punishment. And I have in every instance yielded to the prayer of the petition, not from the belief that the power of pardoning carried with it a despoising power, but from a firm conviction, that public sentiment was in hostility to the present law, and that every officer is bound, no matter by what tenure he may hold his office, to pay respect to that sentiment.

A well organized and well trained militia is, no doubt, the surest safeguard in a free country, and deserves all the encomiums which have upon various occasions been lavished upon that species of

force. But the great difficulty in this as well as many other states seems to exist in obtaining a force of this description thus well organized and trained. Without meaning any disparagement to the courage or patriotism of the militia of this state, the fact is too evident to be denied that they are in a deplorable state as regards discipline. To give to this great mass of moral and physical force, the efficiency which it merits and is capable of receiving, it is indispensable that they should be instructed and practised in the rules by which they are to be governed.—Towards an accomplishment of this important work, the expediency of instituting a system, which shall, in the first instance, call into the field at the public expense, and for longer periods than at present, certain portions of the commissioned and non-commissioned officers, is recommended for your consideration. The instruction and discipline thus acquired, would gradually diffuse through the entire body of the militia that practical knowledge and promptitude for active service, which are the great ends to be pursued.

In conformity with a resolution of the last general assembly, I inquired of the commanding officers of the counties to which arms had been distributed by the act of 1812, relative to the situation of the arms. The result of that inquiry may be seen upon an examination of the packet marked (A.) containing the reports of the officers. The act of 1812 makes it the duty of the governor to distribute the arms which may thereafter be received from the general government to certain counties named in the act. I declined complying with the requisites of this act as to the fifteen hundred and eighty stand which were received in 1816, until the sentiment of the legislature should be expressed upon the reception of the report of the state of the arms already distributed. These arms still await your disposition at the United States' store-houses in Wilmington and Newbern.

Information has been received that the ordnance department of the United States is prepared to deliver the proportion of arms and equipments to which this state is entitled by an act of congress. An offer has been made to deliver in artillery a proportion of the value of what may be found due. There being no authority to assent to this proposal, the subject is submitted to your consideration.

I lost no time in transmitting to Mrs. Blakely the resolution of the last session relative to the maintenance of her child. Mrs. Blakely has accepted the offer made by the legislature, and has drawn upon the treasurer for six hundred dollars for its support for five years, accompanied with a request, that should this sum be thought large, the legislature would greatly add to the obligations she is already under, if a sum could be named for which she might draw semi-annually. That part of the resolution directing the sword voted captain Blakely by a former legislature, to be purchased and presented to Mrs. Blakely has not been carried into effect, and it is submitted if some other present, for instance a set of tea plate, would not be a more suitable present, the child being a female. Mrs. Blakely's letters upon this subject are submitted in the file (B.)

In compliance with the resolution authorising and requesting the governor to order a court-martial for the trial of general Roberts; an order was issued for the court to assemble at the

court-house in Newbern on the 16th of June. General Roberts was arrested but permitted to go at large. He was notified of the time and place of meeting of the court, and served with a copy of the charges and specifications. The court assembled at the time and place appointed, and general Roberts not making his appearance, the court declined trying him on the original charges and specifications, but cashiered him for breach of arrest in not making his appearance, and without notice of the charges.—Upon the proceedings being submitted for my approbation, they were disapproved upon the ground that a man could not be tried in his absence without notice. I then directed the adjutant-general to issue an order to the commanding officer of the county of Carteret, to order out a detachment of militia, if necessary, to arrest general Roberts and keep him in close confinement until the court could be assembled; and a court was accordingly ordered to assemble again at the court house in Newbern on the 13th October. This latter proceeding was founded upon the following clause in Macomb upon Martial Law, p. 54. "Although the martial law makes no mention of any difference in the manner of the arrest in order to trial, a difference is established by the custom of the army, according to the degree or measure of the crime. An officer accused of a capital crime, or any offence of which the penalty is so severe as to excite a natural temptation to escape from justice, ought to be detained in a state of confinement as secure as the closest civil imprisonment. If the offence be of a lighter nature, the presumption is, that the officer whose character is thus impeached, must be solicitous to obtain a judicial investigation of his conduct, and he is therefore generally allowed to be in arrest at large, that is to walk about within certain limits without his sword, on his word of honor, to await the issue of a trial, or his enlargement by proper authority. The degree and measure of the arrest must, however, be entirely at the discretion of the commanding officer, who will in all cases regulate his conduct by the particular circumstances, and by the dictates of propriety and humanity." Upon this latter part of the clause, believing the degree and measure of the arrest to be solely at the discretion of the commanding officer, and as general Roberts had not evinced any wish to have a judicial investigation of his conduct, and had further evinced that his honor was not to be relied on, for making his appearance, I conceived myself authorised to order him into close confinement. From this close confinement the judge who rode the circuit thought proper to release him, and feeling no disposition to have the farce of assembling a court-martial re-acted without any compulsory power to compel the attendance of general Roberts, an order was issued by my direction to prevent the assemblage of the court a second time. This statement is made with a view to obtain legislative provision, to compel the attendance of officers on courts-martial, if the decision of the judge be correct.

It is much to be lamented that a cause of difference should exist between two states, having such strong inducements to union as North Carolina and Tennessee.

The memorial which was presented to the last session of congress, having been, as I have been informed, postponed in consequence of the pres-

sure of business; it it most respectfully submitted, whether the bringing the subject again to the view of congress, by another memorial (lest the one already presented should be permitted to remain another session among the unfinished business of the last,) treating with due respect the feelings of our sister state, but at the same time, supporting with dignity and firmness the rights of North-Carolina, would be deemed superfluous or intrusive.

A letter is herewith submitted from George Graham, esq. acting secretary of war, containing information that the commissioners appointed to treat with the Cherokee Indians, have signed a treaty by which that nation have relinquished their claim to a tract of country, including the whole of the land claimed by them within the limits of the state of North-Carolina, and that this treaty would be submitted to the senate at their next session.

The claim of North-Carolina against the United States for monies advanced by the state, in payment of militia called into the service of the United States, remains unsettled. The war department has been from time to time furnished with the documents called for. By a letter received a few days since from the 3d auditor, I am informed that upon an estimate being furnished of the probable amount of the out standing claims, a further sum will be advanced to the executive of the state to meet the payment of them; and that a final adjustment will be made upon the completion of the payments, and the transmission of the additional documents. This estimate has been furnished.

I have the honor to lay before you a proposal of John Melish, esq. of Philadelphia, relative to the publication of a new map of the United States, also two small treatises of Robert Owen, esq. on the subject of ameliorating the condition of the poor, and a file of the English papers, in which the views of the author are more fully developed. These have been received in the course of the current year, through the honorable John Quincy Adams, on his return to the United States, from the court of St. James, with a request of the author that they should be thus submitted. Several treatises of Jeremy Bentham, esq. of Queens square place, Westminster, received through the same channel, on the subject of penitentiary houses, and codification, are, at the request of the author, laid before you.

A letter from Nathan Starr, esq. of Middleton, Connecticut, offering to furnish the state with any number of swords which may be ordered, is contained in the file (A.)

An artist of established reputation in Philadelphia has been engaged to execute the two full length portraits of general Washington, ordered by the last general assembly, and I had somewhat cherished the hope, they would have been ready by the meeting of the session.

Eleven boxes of the laws of the first session of the fourteenth congress, have been received and are now in this office, to be distributed by the legislature.

This communication is accompanied with such resignation of militia officers and justices of the peace as have been received at this office, together with my letter book and such other documents as it is necessary should be laid before you.

On this last occasion of addressing you, I can-

not omit the fit opportunity of presenting to you, and through you to your successors, my sincere thanks for the repeated instances of confidence reposed in me. The indulgence with which my conduct, while in office, has been viewed by my friends, will be remembered with gratitude. In administering the affairs of the state, I have no doubt committed many errors. It is the province of humanity. But I can with confidence affirm, they have been errors of the understanding and not of inclination.

That your deliberations will be directed to the interest and prosperity of the state, your constituents have a sure guarantee in the circumstance of your being selected from them, from your attachment to and knowledge of their interest.

With the highest consideration and respect, I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,
WILLIAM MILLER.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MR. WEST'S PICTURE.

Mr. Poulson—In the many churches and palaces I have visited in England, and on the continent of Europe, it has been cause of much mortification to me, that so many fine pictures are in a manner lost to the spectator, by the injudicious disposition of the lights thrown on some of the specimens of the very first masters; more especially in some of those gloomy cathedrals of the Gothic ages, whose altars are often decorated with the most brilliant efforts of the pencil; not only are the lights faint and dubious, but what with the smoke of the incense and of lamps, burning night and day, with probably the addition of damp walls; in many instances they are nearly obliterated. In some of the most sumptuous palaces, the case is little bettered; I remember having seen two of Claude Lorrain's best performances, let into the pannels over the entrance doors to a saloon, one of the finest houses in Italy; shut up half the year, and when open hardly perceivable, owing to the cross lights, and being placed too high, therefore we cannot but feel pity and disappointment, in visiting these deposits of the labors of those great masters, of whom we have read so much, and have so anxiously wished to admire in their immortal works. Modern artists having seen these mis-appropriate consignments of their labors, are more tenacious than heretofore in chusing opposite situations for those productions, on which future ages will pass an unbiased judgment; for of all men, artists are the most avaricious of Posthumous Fame—and it argues a noble sensibility!—Mr. West, (no doubt) feeling this "*longing after immortality*" (so justly his due,) gave the plan of the room in which the picture of Christ healing the sick is hung; and I understand the managers have stuck to the "*Letter of the Law*." Mr. West has shown profound judgment in his arrangement. The lights are well managed to show the picture to the very best advantage. May it maintain its place for ages! as a lasting memorial of the beneficence of our illustrious fellow citizen, and as a source of profit to the noblest institution within his native state!

With respect to the decorative part, I must add, that the managers have given us a sample of neatness combined with elegance, and I have little doubt, but all those who have seen the painting and its appendages, will agree with me in saying, that the *trifle* expended in so doing, has given

them pleasure in a two fold sense, viz :—the doing a charitable action, and in amply gratifying a laudable curiosity. Now I take leave, and shall feel amply gratified too, if these well-meant essays have produced the desired effect. *No artist, but an admirer of them.—Am. Daily Adv.*

From a late London paper.

EXTRAORDINARY ELEPHANTS.

The following copy of an official letter from the officer commanding the Ramghur battalion, in Bengal, to the magistrate of that Zilla (division) is, we understand, new to the public:—

"I have the honor to state to you, that on the 24th of March, at midnight, I received information that two elephants, of an uncommon size, had made their appearance within a few hundred yards of the cantonments, and close to a village, the inhabitants of which were in the greatest alarm. I lost no time in despatching all the public and private elephants at the station in pursuit of them; and at day break of the 25th, was informed that their very superior size and apparent fierceness had rendered all attempts for their seizure unavailable, and that the most experienced driver was dangerously wounded, the elephant on which he rode having been struck to the ground by one of the wild ones, which with its companion, had afterwards retreated to a sugar plantation, adjoining the village of Jusipoor. I immediately ordered out the guns of this place; but very desirous, in the first instance to try every means of catching them. I assembled the inhabitants of this neighborhood, with the assistance of Rajah Ragnaut Sing; and caused two deep pits to be prepared on the edge of the Sugar Cane plantation, in which our elephants and people, with the utmost difficulty, contrived to retain these animals during the day. When the pits were reported ready, we repaired to the spot, and they were, with much difficulty, driven into them, but unfortunately one of the pits did not prove sufficiently deep, and the elephant that escaped from it (in the presence of many witnesses) assisted his companion out with his trunk; both were, however, brought back, with much trouble, to the Sugar Cane plantation, and no particular instance of vice or fierceness having appeared in the course of the day, I was anxious to make another trial to catch them. The pioneers, therefore set to work to deepen the old and prepare new holes against day-break, when I proposed making the final attempt. At four o'clock of the morning, (yesterday,) however, they burst through all my guards, and making for a village three miles distant, entered with so much rapidity, that the horsemen who galloped in front of them had not time to apprise the inhabitants of their danger; and I regret to say, that one man was torn limb from limb, a child trodden to death, and two women wounded. Their destruction was now become absolutely necessary, and as they appeared to show no inclination to quit the village, we gained time to bring up the four pounders, from which they soon received round shot and abundance of grade each. The largest of the two was soon brought to the ground by a round shot in the head, but after remaining there a quarter of an hour, apparently lifeless, he got up as vigorous as ever, and the desperation of both exceeded all description—they made repeated charges nearly within one hundred yards of the guns, and had it not been for the uncommon steadiness and bravery of the

artillery men, who more than once turned them off by shot in the head when within a few yards of them, many casualties must have happened. We were now obliged to desist for the want of ammunition and shot; and before a fresh supply could be obtained, the elephants quitted the village; and though streaming with blood from a hundred wounds, proceeded with a rapidity of which before I had no idea to Hazarabang. They were at length brought up by the horsemen, and our elephants, when within a very short space of a crowder (Bazar,) and ultimately, after many renewals of this most formidable attack on the guns, they gave up the contest with their lives. Nineteen four pound shot have already been taken out of their bodies, and I imagine that eighteen more will be found. I have been thus particular, both because I think the transaction worthy of being recorded, and also from a hope that you will concur with me in the propriety of an application to government, for a compensation for the damage suffered by the owners of the villages of Jusipoor and Ored, from the destruction of much grain, &c. I inclose a correct measurement of one of the elephants, which will be read with surprise. I am of opinion they must have escaped from Hydrabad, or some part of the Decan, for I have never heard of or seen animals of this size in this part of India.

I have the honor to be,

E. R. Captain,

commanding Ramghur battalion.

HAZARABANG, 29th September, 1810.

| | |
|--|---------|
| Length from the end of the trunk to the | Ft. In. |
| end of the tail. | 26, 9½ |
| Height. | 11, |
| Round the body. | 17, 8 |
| Length from the crown of the head to be- | |
| neath the jaw. | 7, 8 |

The other elephant rather smaller."

The cause of the Jews.—A letter received in this town, from Mrs. Hannah Moore, the celebrated English authoress, dated Sept. 3, states, that the "Hebrew New Testament is finished; and so great is the demand for it, that a second edition is printing. Mr. Way, a gentleman of immense fortune, high character, and who have devoted himself to the Jewish cause, is now gone to Petersburg with two German Jews, his own converts; one of whom was ordained Priest the day before they came to take leave of us. The Sultan of Tartary [a Christian convert] is also of the party. They preach to the Jews in the cities they pass through."—*Boston Recorder.*

Extract of a letter of recent date, from a young Bostonian, now in Valencia, Spain, to the editors of the Boston Patriot.

A few days since I saw advertised in the play bills, in the streets in large letters, "WASHINGTON." I did not dream that the name of Washington was known here, and I thought it could not possibly relate to the great man of whom our country is so justly proud.—However, to my surprise, I found the comedy truly American. The character of Washington is placed in the most favorable light for virtue, patriotism and honor. The plot is taken from the circumstance of the general's threatening retaliation on his British prisoners, which deterred the British commander from inflicting death on a number of American officers, prisoners

of war. The play was well written, and excellently performed.

During the performance, an illumination scene took place, and in the most conspicuous part of the stage appeared in large transparent letters, "VIVE WASHINGTON!" The act ended in a beautiful dance, the dancers building a temple of laurel wreaths over Washington. I have never seen any thing half so complimentary to the general's memory on our stage. An interesting and novel part is introduced in the comedy, to relieve the more serious. It is a little extraordinary, that the person who personated the general was about fifty, of a tall commanding appearance, and if he had personally known Washington, could not have copied him better. That stern and inflexible manner which was natural to him in the camp, but which gave way to the softest feelings of humanity, when his duty did not interfere, was admirably portrayed. The play was repeated three nights.

English Sentiments.—We derive much satisfaction from perusing the sentiments and opinions of British journalists, particularly the ministerial party, with regard to the United States—and we derive additional pleasure in witnessing the language now used, when compared with the odious and humiliating epithets bestowed upon us previous to the late war. The following is a sample of the improved manners of the *Courier*. The article is extracted from that paper of the 2d ultimo:

"The American papers which we have lately received, continue to speak of the efforts making to increase the strength of the navy of the United States, with a view, no doubt, to a more desperate competition with Great Britain, should any unforeseen circumstances unhappily occasion another rupture between the two countries. Such an event is most earnestly to be deprecated; but as, in the various and fluctuating relations of states, it is impossible to say how soon tranquility, apparently the most profound, may be violated, it may be worth while again to call the public attention, while it can be calmly directed towards the subject, to the practice on the part of the Americans, of under-rating their vessels; all of which are, in fact, of much greater strength than the class to which they belong.

America is at present the only power that makes any distinction between the rate and the actual strength of its ships of war. Neither France, Spain or Russia do so now, nor, we believe did they ever do so. The present American 74's can throw a broadside within fifty pounds as heavy as the *Caledonia*, a British ship rating 120 guns, and measuring 2617 tons.

It is far from impossible, however, that the American government, profiting by the British order in council, directing that all British men of war shall henceforward be rated according to their actual force, may be contemplating the means of reducing her rating system, and bringing it a little nearer the standard of truth. The variations between the rate and measurement of the British navy was of gradual progress, attributable to accident rather than design."

Emigration.—A Quebec paper of the 11th inst. states, that 303 vessels, with 5,375 new settlers have arrived at that port during the past season.

FOREIGN SUMMARY.

FRANCE.

Paris, Sept. 26.—General Baron de Donzelot has taken leave of the minister of Marine, previously to his departure for Martinique, as governor of that, and all the French windward islands. He unites in himself the civil, administrative and military powers. The office of Intendant is abolished.

We anticipate the most auspicious results from the appointment of the Baron de Donzelot. When governor of the Ionian isles, and Corfu, and holding a supreme command in Egypt, he administered his offices with such disinterestedness and gentleness, such firmness and wisdom that we cannot help congratulating Martinique on the acquisition of a ruler so well known in three quarters of the globe. The Baron was a favorite officer of Bonaparte.

FLORIDA.

Amelia Island.—A large Spanish ship, from Havana bound to Cadiz, with a full cargo of sugar and coffee, which arrived at Amelia Island some time since, was condemned on Friday, the 14th inst. She was a prize to the *De La Plata*, Buenos Ayrean privateer, and had a cargo of six hundred boxes sugar, and three thousand weight of coffee.

A Spanish schooner from the coast of Africa for Havana, with one hundred and seventeen slaves on board, has also been lately carried into Amelia. She was captured by a small Mexican privateer, fitted out at Amelia Island, after a cruise of sixteen days. The prize was taken possession of by the United States brig *Saranac*, but it was supposed she would be released.

Chas. C. Gaz.

Court Martial.—An extract of a letter is published in the Charleston City Gazette, under date of St. Mary's 15th November inst. which says "the affairs of Fernandina are very alarming. The court martial is sitting to try all supposed offenders. They have arrested several on trifling pretenses; tried and banished an Englishman by the name of McDugal, by putting him on board the *Morgiana*, at sea. Aury does not seem disposed to form a constitution, nor establish civil authority. The liberating army (as they style themselves) have completely enslaved, for the present, those that were free. They now look to the United States, as the only source of happiness, and hope she will extend her protecting arm over the Floridas. A few days ago a prize came in with Africans; she would not allow the *Saranac's* boat to board her, but returned her fire, and got in safe; she has since been demanded by captain Elton, and given up. It is a fortunate circumstance for the people of Florida, that the *Saranac* is stationed here."

The Augusta Chronicle of the 12th inst. says "it appears, "that the pirates and banditti on Amelia Island, are still endeavoring to entice into their service our unsuspecting citizens. To seduce them from their honest and peaceable pursuits, they proffer them a visionary compensation which will never be realised. Let our countrymen beware of those false allurements. The moment they embrace them they disfranchise themselves as American citizens—they loose the protection and regard of their government, and by associating with the outlaws of nations, they throw themselves without the pale of civilization, and become deprived even of the common benefit of brutes.

DOMESTIC SUMMARY.

MASSACHUSETTS.

From the Boston Daily Advertiser.

Southampton Mine.—The lead mine in Southampton is becoming more and more an object of interest to men of science or curiosity. The principal works have been suspended for several years, in order to complete a gallery, or *drift*, to facilitate the operations of the mine. It is this gallery which is at present most worthy of attention. It is a cavern six feet square, commencing almost 50 rods from the mine, at the foot of a hill, and extending horizontally into it.—Its present length is 800 feet. At its extremity it is 120 feet perpendicular from the surface of the earth.—Except for the first hundred feet, it is entirely cut out of the solid rock; which near the mouth is composed of sand-stone, and at the other extremity of granite, occasionally interspersed with other minerals. A small vein of lead ore has lately been discovered intersecting the gallery; but it is too small to be of any importance except as an indication of the existence of others in its neighborhood.

This gallery has already been the work of six years, and it will probably require at least another year to extend it to the vein.—The economy and perseverance with which the works have been carried on, richly entitles the proprietors to success, and there is much reason to believe they will not be disappointed.

The Arts.—The encouragement lately given to Arts and Sciences throughout the United States, has been productive of the most beneficial consequences. Among the establishments which do honor to this town, by their extensiveness as well as usefulness, none can rank higher than the *manufactory of musical instruments in Milk-street*—The metropolis of any country would be proud of it. An elegant organ from the above manufactory is just completed, and erected in the Rev. Mr. Thatcher's Church, Church-Green. It will be opened to-morrow, on which occasion, several select pieces will be performed by a full choir, under the direction of Mr. Huntington. Mr. Lewis, professor of music, is appointed Organist.

VERMONT.

The legislature adjourned on the 5th instant, after a session of a little more than four weeks.

Amendments to the constitution of the United States.—On the 27th October, the committee to whom was referred sundry proposals of amendment to the constitution of the United States, made report, that the resolutions from the states of N. Carolina and New Jersey ought to be referred to the next session of the general assembly.

The same committee, to whom was referred the resolution from the state of Kentucky, proposing an amendment to the constitution of the United States, that no law varying the compensation of the members of the congress of the United States shall take effect until the time for which the members of the house of representatives of that congress, by which the law was passed, shall have expired, made report of the following resolution:—

Resolved, That it is inexpedient to adopt said amendment.

Banks.—A bill to establish a bank at Windsor, has passed the legislature and become a law, having been amended by the council of revision,

which amendments have been concurred in by the house.

This law requires the stockholders to pay to the state a bonus of 1,000 dollars for the first year after it goes into operation, and 1,500 dollars for every subsequent year. The charter is forfeited if the bank does not go into operation previous to the first day of September next.

A bill was also before the house for establishing a bank at Burlington, but was referred to the next session of the legislature.

NEW-YORK.

Niagara Falls.—**Bridge at Goat Island.**—Augustus Porter, esq. the proprietor of the American side of the falls of Niagara, some time since purchased Goat Island, lying in the Niagara river, dividing the falls. This island being situate in the rapids, has heretofore been deemed inaccessible or dangerous of access, there being only one point to approach it, and that by putting into the river a mile or more above the falls, and then dropping down between the rapids and the head of the island; this way however, could not always be considered secure, as the least mismanagement of the boat in departing the island would be fatal. In order, therefore, to approach the island in safety and to improve it to advantage, the enterprising proprietor has constructed a bridge 34 rods in length, founded on 11 piers, each pier when filled will contain 50 tons of stone; and from the size of the piers and their foundation being solid rock, it is confidently believed that the bridge will be permanent. It is, we understand, the intention of judge Porter, to cultivate this enchanting island, and erect thereon suitable buildings for the accommodation of strangers and others, who desire to view one of the grandest curiosities of nature, in a new character.

The island contains about 80 acres of land, is about 100 rods wide, but at the lower end, between the falls, it is only 90 rods.

The Sea Serpent.—It is said, is still in Long Island Sound. On Friday and Saturday he was seen off Greenwich harbor, (in the vicinity of Captain's Island,) by a number of inhabitants of that town. He moved slowly through the water with his head raised about six feet; and, in his progress, produced a foam like that produced by the bow of a vessel. He appeared to be amusing himself leisurely near and round the Islands, and occupied about ten minutes in passing from one of the Islands to another, a distance of little more than a mile.

Emigration.—The numbers emigrating from the east, exceed all calculation. At Olean Point (*Harrilton Village*), extensive barracks are erected for their accommodation, and a great number of boat builders are constantly laboring there to supply means of passage down the Allegany. About 70 families arrived there in one day, for embarkation.

Bath. N. Y. Pap.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

City Bank of Charleston.—On the question being taken in council on Friday the 4th instant, relative to the expediency of establishing a City Bank, the sole object of which was to *reduce*, in a reasonable period of time, the whole system of *city taxation*, the yeas and nays were called for, which were as follows:—

Yeas.—Hon. John Geddes, Intend. Messrs. George, Moore, Strohecker, Wilson, and Wyatt—6.

Messrs.—Messrs. Bacot, Graves, Haslett, Mitchell, Napier, Peronneru and Stevens—7.

So the question was lost by only one vote.—*Gaz.*

GEORGIA.

Exports from Savannah, from Oct. 1, 1816, to Oct. 1, 1817.

| | | |
|---------------------|---------|----------|
| Cotton, Sea Island, | 9731 | } bales. |
| Ditto Upland | 106,726 | |
| Rice | 16,111 | Tierces |
| Tobacco | 4319 | hhd. |

There were about 1000 bags S. I. and 2000 bags of Upland, exported from Darien, *not* included in the above.

The deaths in Augusta for the 3 last months, whites 81, blacks 39—making a total of 120—which is probably (says the editor of the Herald) nearly double the number that have died in this place, in an entire year, within the last thirty years. And also adds, that the deaths have been mostly of persons in the prime of life.

Cotton was selling in Augusta at 31 a 32 cents, and tobacco \$ 5 a 6, on Monday last.

EDITOR'S CABINET.

The Speaker's Chair.—Perhaps the influence which this chair possesses, has never been generally or accurately investigated; there is attached to it, however, a species of magical power, which operates forcibly if not visibly; and the speaker of the house of representatives is clothed with more authority than the community at large, or perhaps even the members of that honorable body contemplate.

Long custom rather than any constitutional law, has assigned to the speaker of the house the appointment of all committees, and the very first act of his office is generally the nomination of those important bodies, such as the committees of finance, of foreign relations, of commerce and manufactures, of post office and roads &c. &c.

The speaker appointing those committees has naturally his views in the selection, and as his own sentiments may be favorable or unfavorable to certain views of the administration, he may by the selection of his committees operate either to frustrate or forward measures, recommended, as well as various other measures submitted to their discretion. By a knowledge of the accord or opposition of the generality of the members of the house to certain points, which information a session fully conveys, he may so regulate matters and things as to become a formidable political adversary to any administration and might even carry his point in opposition to the sentiment of congress.

We do not mean to insinuate that such has ever been the case, nor do we wish our remarks to be considered as having the least bearing on the honorable gentleman who has filled that station, with so much credit and dignity. What we wish to convey is that we consider the power delegated by congress, from long usage, to the speaker, of

appointing all committees, is clothing him with an authority which may in days of less tranquility become dangerous and even subversive of the free representation of the people.

It may very justly be contended that the appointing of committees facilitates the dispatch of business, and that it is parliamentary for the speaker to appoint them.

It is not against the appointment of committees that we are opposed, but against the parliamentary usage, of the speaker's appointing them; for we see no reason why the members of the house should not vote on the formation of committees as well as the nomination of a speaker; besides a speaker once appointed it appears a matter of courtesy to reappoint him, and the body perhaps votes on this most important question, without taking into due consideration the power which they delegate as regards committees.

We will merely state the case as it may occur. The speaker inimical to, or in favor of domestic fabrications, internal improvements, an increase or reduction of taxes, the advancement of the navy, &c. may so cull his committees as to have the chairman of them with him on every question. There is no one that will deny that in this view of the subject the chair may possess an undue influence, if the accelerating or thwarting of measures may be considered as such. Let the members of that honorable body put the question to themselves and inquire whether the success or defeat of many a bill or petition may not depend on the formation of a committee; let any member in favor of roads and canals, domestic manufactures or any other national object, inquire if the appointment of committees were by ballot, whether he would not vote against the appointment of a man whom he knew was hostile to their encouragement.

The appointment of committees by a general vote of the house would indubitably carry with it a stronger sense of national feeling on every subject embraced. The individual politics or prejudices of a speaker could not, in such a case, be felt. It might take a little more time and create some discussion. On an affair of such importance, however, the nation might consider it a political economy, even if it cost them money, and the house be a week or a fortnight in arranging their committees in lieu of a day. We have thrown our thoughts rather loosely together on this subject, which might demand a more intimate consideration; to those, however, who feel the duty of their stations, and the value of the trust reposed in them by the confidence of their constituents, and who have a virtuous jealousy that the authorities of a republican institution should never overstep the boundaries prescribed, by ingrafting on

any individual privileges which may become injurious, our language will be plain and intelligible; as they will at once assimilate with us in opinion that usage should never justify or sanction a principle which has not political justice for its basis, and which might at a more critical period meditate against the welfare of the nation or jeopardize an administration by its influence.

The President's House.—We have heard so much about a ship load of Furniture having been brought from France to Alexandria, for the President's House, that curiosity led us to examine into this affair, and the validity of the various reports in circulation.

Instead of an importation of a ship load of furniture as represented by some of our editors, we find that the great transgression consists merely in 40 cases of ornamental objects, such as looking glasses, chandeliers, clocks, sconces, china, and some silks for curtains; all of them articles which cannot be manufactured in the United States, and for which, as bearing our small share of this expense, we feel much obliged to every one concerned in the order of those articles and the selection thereof. They are, indeed, exquisite models of the arts; durable as well as beautiful and perfectly appropriate to the building and its style of decoration.

We may not now be ashamed to see a foreign minister or other distinguished characters in this seat prepared for our chief magistrate, as by the side of what this country exhibits in the substantial and useful, we see the finest articles of Paris workmanship, to which all Europe is tributary as regards the rarest specimens of art.

In one room may be seen a beautiful marble bust of Washington, in another a full length picture of this pride of our country; in others the busts of Columbus and Vesputius Americanus.—In the saloon an elegant clock, representing the goddess of wisdom, the whole to be reflected by large mirrors and superb chandeliers. We hope shortly to see this stately edifice completed and furnished in the style now adopted; it will then display a corresponding symmetry and beauty, and may justly be considered, not our "*Corinthian*," but our *Columbian Capital*.

Our brethren in Philadelphia, New-York, &c. who have given currency to such idle misrepresentations should now visit the city of Washington and satisfy themselves by an examination of these models of our own and foreign manufactured furniture. If we are forced to be tributary for articles we cannot yet manufacture, we are perfectly willing that on such an occasion they should be of the best kind. We do not carry our ideas of republicanism so far that our first magistrate must

sit in a wicker chair and eat off a pine table and a wooden plate, any more than we should think it necessary for a man to go with a long beard, dirty linen, muddy boots, and an uncombed head, to show the simplicity of democratic principles and his independence from the tyranny of custom and cleanliness. There may be men who affect to pride themselves in their slovenliness, and despise those who pay attention to the outside of their persons or the inside of their houses, but we feel no disposition to study their code or reduce it to practice. It might suit the mob-ocratic sentiments which prevailed with the *poissardes* in the days of Robespierre, but we do not wish to see it introduced into a well organized republic. We should say there was no pride of character in such men. Franklin, like our present chief magistrate, was one of the most simple and unaffected of men, but like him he shewed a dignity of deportment which so far from injuring the cause of republicanism created a veneration for it. He was alike at home on a damask gilt settee as at his printing press, and his essay on taste and fashion might prove a useful lesson to some of our over fastidious cynics, who would, perhaps, delight in seeing the president's mansion decorated with furniture such as is to be found in a pawnbroker's shop in St. Giles, and might suit the inside economy as well as the outside figure of a landlady's house at Wapping. The grant by congress of 20,000 dollars for the purpose of furnishing this national edifice speaks for itself, that the intention was to make the interior correspond with the exterior, and we think the agents employed in this business have accomplished the ends proposed.

The Yellow Fever.—We learn by the Charleston and Savannah papers, that the late prevailing fever has subsided and nearly disappeared. The Charleston City Gazette, says, that only six in that city died of the fever from the 19th Oct. to the 16th Nov. a period of four weeks.

In Savannah the total number of deaths, from the 1st, to the 15th instant, were thirty nine, of which twenty seven were by bilious fever, and two by yellow fever.

South American Mission.—We are informed by the Baltimore Patriot, that Messrs. RODNEY, GRAHAM, and BLAND, commissioners to South America, with Mr. BRACKENRIDGE, secretary to the mission, left Baltimore on Thursday morning, the 27th inst. in the steam boat Virginia, for Norfolk, where they will embark on board the Congress frigate, captain SINCLAIR, and proceed immediately to perform the duties of their appointment.

Gregor M'Gregor, the knight errant of America Island, arrived at Nassau, N. P. about the last

September. His object in visiting that place has not been promulgated: most likely to concert some plan with the British agent for another grand enterprize.

Digging for salt water.—In a postscript to a letter from a friend at Portland, Chautaugue county, N. Y. under date of the 9th instant, we have the following: "Permit me also to mention that Mr. Baffington, one of the company who, for three seasons past, has been digging for salt water on the shore of lake Erie, tells me that they have descended to the depth of five hundred and eighty-three feet. 572 feet of this distance has been worked in a rock. That they have expended upwards of four thousand dollars, and that if they can raise the funds, they will continue to work it again next summer. He says they have discovered symptoms of salt water, and he feels confident they will find it by digging a little deeper. I have, however, but little faith in it, but surely such unremitted diligence and persevering labor deserves the most ample reward, and I cannot but wish them complete success.

D. K.

The Floridas.—There has been considerable rumors as regards the cession of this interesting tract of territory—some ceding it to Great Britain, together with the Island of Cuba, as a payment for claims against the Spanish government, for support of troops, &c.—some ceding it to the United States for a certain sum, liquidating in the cession of it those debts due by Spain, for her spoiliations on the commerce of the United States. We are entirely ignorant of the truth or falsity of either of the rumors cited. If, however, there should be any likelihood of the former having validity, we should think it nothing more than a prudent move in congress to take care in the first place of the interest and claims of their citizens, by taking possession of the country. In the second there is a greater incentive to the immediate location of it, as it is necessary to make integral the platform of the United States. By a cession of it to Great Britain by Spain; we should have rather an unpleasant neighbor in a day of hostility. If we must take it, it will cost us a trifle to take it from Spain, we can pay ourselves and settle the difference afterwards. The cost of taking it from Great Britain, might be more than it is worth, sold per acre. There are various ways of viewing a subject—the present view of it may, perhaps, be worth consideration—perhaps not!!!

A CARD.

The editors of the National Intelligence, National Register and Boston Palladium are informed

that the paragraph, copied in their respective prints, from the Rhode-Island American, stating, that the senate of this state non-concurred in a resolution of the house of representatives, at their last session, recommending the repeal of the internal duties, is ABSOLUTELY FALSE. The official papers on the subject, copied from documents furnished the editors by the federal clerk of the house, may be found in the Providence Patriot of the 8th instant, by which it will be seen that the senate *did concur* in said resolution, with an amendment, in which the house refused to concur.—*Prov. Patriot.*

IMPORTANT!—The executive of this state received on Saturday, by express, the following important information:

Extract of a letter from General Gaines, dated,

"HEAD QUARTERS, Fort Gaines, 9th Nov. 1817.

SIR—I had the honor to receive at Fort Montgomery, on the eve of my movement hither, your excellency's communication of the 17th September. My disposable force, consisting of the 4th and 7th infantry, marched on the 20th ultimo by the Coneka on our new route, and arrived at this place last night.

I had entertained a hope that the Seminole Indians, apprized of this movement, would yield to my demand, and thereby obviate the necessity of marching to the frontier, the auxiliary force which you were pleased to put in readiness for the purpose. This hope has not been realized. On the contrary, it appears from the best information I can obtain, that the Seminoles have made arrangements to collect their force, amounting to upwards of two thousand warriors, and attack us as soon as we cross Flint river. Although I put little faith in their threats, and believe their numbers to be overrated—yet, under all the circumstances of the case, I feel it to be my duty to request of your excellency, the regiment of infantry and squadron of cavalry, designated for this service; and that they may be ordered to assemble at Fort Hawkins on the 25th instant, or as soon after that day as may be practicable—where the infantry will be armed and equipped, and the whole mustered and inspected by major Nix of the army of the United States. I apprehend it will not be practicable to arm the cavalry, but in part: it is therefore very desirable that this part of the force should bring with them their own arms and equipments—otherwise I shall be under the necessity of putting muskets into the hands of such as I may be unable otherwise to arm.

Copy of a letter from Maj. Twiggs to Gen. Gaines, Dated "Fort Scott, 1st Nov.

SIR—Since my last communication, nothing of any importance has occurred in this quarter. I have a character in confinement, who was present at the meeting at the Mikasuka town the last of September. The determination of the Indians is, to give up no murderers or others to the whites, and as soon as we cross Flint river, to attack us. The chiefs counted the number present at the meeting—there were 2,700 warriors."

In compliance with the above requisition, orders have been issued by the governor for the drafted militia to rendezvous at the place appointed, by the first of next month. *Geo. Sou. 18th Inst.*